



Daily Update

Friday 22nd January 2021

This daily update contains important information for community pharmacy teams about the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In today's update: upcoming Pharmacy Advice Audit; Pharmacy-run C-19 vac site in national press; further extension to SSP for Salazopyrin[®] EN-Tabs 500mg.

Pharmacy Advice Audit 2021 next week

Community pharmacy contractors are reminded that the participation period for PSNC's 2021 Pharmacy Advice Audit is next week, and we would be hugely grateful to anyone who can take part.

Pharmacy teams are encouraged to take part in the audit to capture information about the reasons why people choose to visit community pharmacies. PSNC is increasingly concerned about the pressures that pharmacy teams are under during the COVID-19 pandemic and also about reports that general practice teams are referring patients to pharmacies for consultations informally, rather than via the agreed Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS) route.

This audit will provide a critical temperature check – the data will allow PSNC to quantify how many unfunded GP referrals are taking place, and it will tell us more about impact that COVID-19 is having on pharmacy teams and on the advice that patients are seeking from you. This will provide crucial evidence for our ongoing funding discussions with HM Government and the NHS.

Pharmacies are requested to carry out the audit on **just a single day in the week commencing 25th January** and, once completed, pharmacy teams are asked to submit their data to PSNC via PharmOutcomes.

The PSNC audit has been road-tested by ten pharmacies to make it as simple as possible to carry out. We hope to receive data from as many pharmacy teams as possible to build a strong evidence base.

Full details and guidance can be found at: psnc.org.uk/adviceaudit

Pharmacy C-19 vaccination site in national press

Following the [second wave of pharmacy-run sites](#) that began administering COVID-19 vaccinations from yesterday, The Whalley Range Tennis and Cricket Club site in Manchester was featured in The Guardian. Aneet Kapoor, independent pharmacy contractor and Chair of Greater Manchester LPC, was interviewed about the hard work that had gone into getting the site up and running alongside some appreciative patients.

[The Guardian: Bell-ringing and air-punching as COVID jabs begin in Whalley Range](#)

Further extension to SSP08

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has provided an update on the Serious Shortage Protocols (SSPs) for Salazopyrin® EN-Tabs 500mg (SSP08).

SSP08 for Salazopyrin® EN-Tabs 500mg was previously expected to expire on 22nd January 2021 but the end date has been further extended to **26th February 2021**.

[Read more here](#)

Have you seen our latest FAQs?

PSNC's website has a large number of answers to queries posed by pharmacy contractors, their teams and LPCs; these are updated on a regular basis. Recent additions on the topic **Lateral Flow Testing for asymptomatic pharmacy staff** include:

Q. What happens if staff get a positive result?

Staff should inform their manager of a positive result in the normal way. Staff should arrange a confirmatory PCR test via the established testing routes. They and their household should self-isolate as set out in [Government guidance](#).

Q. What happens if a test is negative, but staff have coronavirus symptoms?

If you have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, you should refer to [NHS guidance](#).

Q. At what stage is NHS Test and Trace informed of the result?

At the point the confirmatory PCR test result is known, and this is a positive result, test results will, as normal, be referred to NHS Test and Trace.

Full information on Lateral Flow Testing for asymptomatic pharmacy staff can be found on the [Staff wellbeing and COVID-19 testing page](#).

Keep up-to-date on COVID-19 with our hub page: psnc.org.uk/coronavirus

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee



RSS

LinkedIn

twitter

facebook

14 Hosier Lane, London, EC1A 9LQ
Tel: 0203 1220 810 | Email: info@psnc.org.uk